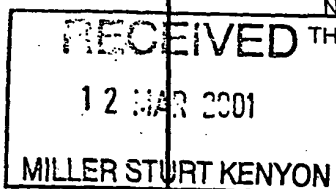


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:
MILLER STURT KENYON
Attn. Sturt, Clifford Mark
9 John Street
London WC1N 2ES
UNITED KINGDOM



NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference WOP12750A	Date of mailing (day/month/year) 13/03/2001
International application No. PCT/GB 01/00009	International filing date (day/month/year) 02/01/2001 ✓
Applicant SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION	

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the International Search Report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the International Application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the International Search Report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no International Search Report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Raoul Emme
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference WOP12750A	FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small>	
International application No. PCT/GB 01/ 00009	International filing date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 02/01/2001	(Earliest) Priority Date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 07/01/2000
Applicant SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.
☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☒ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1
☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/JP 01/00009

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H01L21/336 H01L29/786

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 011, no. 312 (E-548), 12 October 1987 (1987-10-12) -& JP 62 104172 A (FUJITSU LTD), 14 May 1987 (1987-05-14)	1-5, 8, 9, 11
A	abstract; figures 1,2	6, 7, 10, 12, 13
X	EP 0 401 577 A (FUJITSU LTD) 12 December 1990 (1990-12-12) figures 3-5 column 3, line 53 -column 4, line 34 column 5, line 1 -column 9, line 11	1-5, 8, 9
A	---	6, 7, 10-13
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 March 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

13/03/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Polesello, P

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

P 01/00009

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 012, no. 357 (E-662), 26 September 1988 (1988-09-26) & JP 63 114265 A (FUJITSU LTD), 19 May 1988 (1988-05-19)	1-3,8-11
A	abstract	4-7,12, 13
X	--- US 4 965 213 A (BLAKE TERENCE G W) 23 October 1990 (1990-10-23) figures 3-6 column 4, line 34 -column 8, line 40	1-4,6
Y		7
A		5,8-13
X	--- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 011, no. 104 (E-494), 2 April 1987 (1987-04-02) -& JP 61 252666 A (HITACHI LTD), 10 November 1986 (1986-11-10) abstract; figure 1	1
Y		7
A		2-6
X	--- GB 1 543 132 A (SIEMENS AG) 28 March 1979 (1979-03-28) figures 1-3 page 1, line 63 - line 83 page 2, line 94 -page 3, line 70	1-5,8
A		6,7,9-13
X	--- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 013, no. 213 (E-759), 18 May 1989 (1989-05-18) -& JP 01 025573 A (HITACHI LTD), 27 January 1989 (1989-01-27) abstract; figures 1,2	1-5,8
A		6,7,9-13
X	--- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 007, no. 154 (E-185), 6 July 1983 (1983-07-06) -& JP 58 064064 A (TOKYO SHIBAURA DENKI KK), 16 April 1983 (1983-04-16) abstract; figures 1-6	1-5,7,8
A		6,9-13
A	--- US 5 365 080 A (YAMAZAKI SHUNPEI ET AL) 15 November 1994 (1994-11-15) column 6, line 20 - line 42 -----	12,13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP 01/00009

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			BE 858694 A	02-01-1978
			FR 2364542 A	07-04-1978
			IT 1084222 B	25-05-1985
			JP 53036186 A	04-04-1978
			NL 7710034 A	16-03-1978
JP 01025573	A	27-01-1989	NONE	
JP 58064064	A	16-04-1983	NONE	
US 5365080	A	15-11-1994	JP 4267563 A	24-09-1992
			JP 8028520 B	21-03-1996
			US 5930608 A	27-07-1999